

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: July 21, 2006

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on July 14, 2006

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

Norman R. Niedergang
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, other significant developments, and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Settlement Reached, Westway Terminals Company, Inc. Riverdale, Illinois

On July 12, 2006, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order resolving the Administrative Complaint that was filed on October 20, 2005, against Westway Terminals Company, Inc., Riverdale, Illinois. The complaint alleges violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 103 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Section 304. On December 24, 2002, Westway Terminals Company, Inc., had a 50,997-pound release of sulfuric acid, which is a hazardous substance under CERCLA and an extremely hazardous substance under EPCRA with a reportable quantity (RQ) of 1,000 pounds. The person in charge of the facility notified the National Response Center (NRC) about 6 hours and 30 minutes after the release. The owner/operator notified the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) 2 hours and 45 minutes after the release. The owner/operator of the facility never immediately notified the Cook County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) or the City of Chicago LEPC. The facility submitted the written follow-up report to the SERC

and the LEPC 65 days after the incident, but never provided the City of Chicago LEPC with the written follow-up report. The proposed penalty in the complaint is \$254,827.17.

The EPCRA allegations were dropped because the release did not leave the facilities boundary. Westway Terminals Company, Inc., will have 30 days to pay \$15,000 to the Superfund as a cash penalty and \$5,000 on supplemental environmental projects to donate aqueous fire fight foam to the Riverdale Fire Department and test strips to the Chicago Fire Department.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Asbestos Release Investigation, National Paint and Lacquer Site, Chicago, Illinois

On July 10, 2006, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Brad Benning, Office of Regional Counsel (ORC) attorney Connie Puchalski, and Civil Investigator Joe Kawecky inspected the former removal site, National Paint and Lacquer at 74th and Green, in south Chicago due to reports of illegal demolition which involved the release of asbestos containing material. U.S. EPA met with a representative from the Chicago Department of the Environment to inspect the site to determine if emergency actions were warranted to address the release. Apparently, the previous week an illegal demolition contractor started to remove steel and brick from the site, releasing asbestos pipe wrap during the demolition of the building. The City took initial action over the weekend and had their asbestos contractor respond and clean up the loose asbestos pipe wrap that had been knocked down during the demolition work. The City also issued tickets to the property owners and planned on requesting the owners to secure the site and possibly initiate proper demolition of the facility. Since the current property owners are in cost recovery negotiation with the Agency on the initial cleanup in 2004, Ms. Puchalski and Mr. Kawecky were interested in any connection between the illegal demolition activity and the owners. They spent the day interviewing numerous people about the incident and obtaining police reports. The City of Chicago will likely refer the site to U.S. EPA for possible removal assessment.

Contacts: Bradley Benning (312-353-7613)
Joe Kawecky (312-886-7236)

Risk Management Planning Inspection Conducted, Clorox Products Manufacturing Company, Chicago, Illinois

On July 11, 2006, Silvia Palomo and Ed Bordy from the Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention conducted an inspection at Clorox Products Manufacturing Company in Chicago,

Illinois. The purpose of the inspection was to review the Risk Management Program (RMP) that the facility has in place for the use and storage of chlorine, which is a regulated substance under the RMP regulations. The facility manufactures Clorox household cleaning products, and chlorine is used in the production of sodium hypochlorite.

Contact: Silvia Palomo (312-353-2172)

**Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Inspection,
G&K Services, Inc., Rockford, Illinois**

On July 12, 2006, George Rancich, Region 5 Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention (OCEPP), conducted an Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) compliance inspection at G&K Services, Inc., in Rockford, Illinois. G&K Services is involved in the laundering of industrial uniforms and other industrial items, Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 7218. The laundering operations involve the use of highly alkaline cleaning solutions containing sodium hydroxide and other hazardous chemicals. In addition, some facilities in this SIC code have waste water treatment operations treating their effluent water to meet the requirements of their local publically owned treatment works (POTW). This facility also operates a dry cleaning operation using solvents. This inspection was conducted to determine if this facility has hazardous chemical reporting requirements under EPCRA Section 312 and their compliance with those requirements. To date, 11 facilities have been brought into compliance as a result of the Industrial Laundry Sector Compliance Assistance and Inspections. The results of the inspection will be reviewed by OCEPP to determine if follow up action is required.

Contact: George Rancich (312-886-6148)

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS

Deployment for NASCAR Events, Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet, Illinois

During July 7-9, 2006, U.S. EPA Emergency Response personnel deployed to the Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet, Illinois, for the annual National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) events. U.S. EPA deployed personnel and hazardous materials response equipment at the request of the City of Joliet and NASCAR officials. Other agencies involved included the Federal

Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Department of Energy Radiological Response Team, the National Guard Civil Support Team, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA), and numerous other State and local officials.

Contacts: Mike Beslow (312-353-8678)
Brian Schlieger (734-692-7681)
Len Zintak (312-886-4246)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Meeting, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 5 Regional Interagency Steering Committee, Chicago, Illinois

On June 21 and 22, 2006, Ann Whelan (Oil Section) and Glenn Cekus (Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention) attended the Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RISC) meeting, held in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 5 Chicago office. Some of the more important agenda items included presentations on the 2006 Hurricane Season Initiatives, and State and Federal agency avian flue updates.

On Thursday, June 22, Ann Whelan and Pat Glithro (FEMA) gave a joint presentation regarding the Spills of National Significance Exercise (SONS 07). This will be an objective driven, cold start exercise starting June 19, 2007, and lasting two weeks. Other U.S. EPA participants in the meeting were: William Messenger, Barbi Lee, and Ross Del Rosario.

Contacts: Glen Cekus (312-353-6449)
Ann Whelan (312-886-7258)

Oil Section Speech, British Petroleum, Naperville, Illinois

On July 12, 2006, Sheila Calovich (Oil Section) was the featured luncheon speaker at the British Petroleum (BP) Crisis Management Training Week conducted at the BP Naperville, Illinois, Crisis Center. The purpose of the training was to improve emergency response and crisis management skills for BP personnel. Ms. Calovich spoke of the various programs within the Oil Section, the Region 5 Incident Management Team, and the upcoming Spills of National Significance exercise.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)
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